

LETTERS TO THE STAR

It is beginning to look as though it may be possible for mankind to escape the death sentence brought about by the Cuban crisis. For this, every man, woman and child should give thanks and express gratitude to the top leaders of the two opposing blocs: President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev.

Whatever our differences,

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this is no time to express them. This is no time to become a carping critic, to assess blame, or claim victory for either side. Mankind will be the only victor if an agreement can be reached which recognizes and protects the rights and interests of all parties involved. And all mankind will be sacrificed if this is not achieved.

This is the time for each of us to urge with all possible vigor the necessity for truly honest negotiations at every level, especially at the very top level. The Cuban crisis demonstrates that violent talk, display of military power, or "get tough" policies, if persisted in by both protagonists, can end only in mutual suicide. Our only hope is honest negotiations, our only protection is peace.

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tired), Asheville, N. C.

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